Dairying & Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture for making recommendation on various issues relating to the development of marine fisheries in India. The EC has representatives from the Ministry of Defence, Director General of Shipping, Ministry of Finance, Planning Commission, Ministry of Home Affairs, Marine Products Export Development Authority, Ministry of Shipping, Fishery Survey of India, Ministry of Communication, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Coast Guards and the Reserve Bank of India.

(f) Some of the main recommendations of the EC pertain to percentage of Indian crew onboard deep-sea fishing vessels, voyage period, submission of voyage reports, stipulation on payments towards the cost of vessels, requirement on registration, mid-sea transshipment of catch, mandatory Coast Guard inspections etc. All the recommendations of the EC have been implemented.

RKVY in Orissa

3258. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount released under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to Orissa;

(b) the amount spent by the State;

(c) whether funds were spent to achieve the objectives under RKVY;

(d) the output and achievements under RKVY in Orissa; and

(e) whether implementation of RKVY resulted in increased productivity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) An amount of Rs. 230.67 crore has been released under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) to Orissa during 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 (up to 15.12.2009).

(b) State has spent Rs. 139.00 crore from 2007-08 to 15th December, 2009.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State have undertaken several projects in Agriculture, Horticulture, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Agriculture Marketing, Irrigation and Agriculture Research sectors. Production of foodgrains has increased, more crops have been taken up under organic cultivation in horticulture sector, milk production has increased in Puri, Nayagarh and Khurda districts, two cotton mandis have been established and water use efficiency has improved in Orissa as a result of RKVY projects.

(e) Yes, Sir.

Impact of drought on Rabi crop

3259. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of drought on the Rabi sowing in various States; and

(b) the details of plans made by Government to ensure that the drought does not affect Rabi sowing adversely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Overall good late rains at the end of Kharif season at most places has improved the soil moisture making the soil conducive for Rabi sowing. Hence, barring States like Gujarat and Rajasthan there is no major overall impact of drought on Rabi as such. However, Government has taken several steps to tackle the impending situation for increasing the area under Rabi cultivation to compensate losses of kharif 2009-10. Sowing of Rabi crops is in progress in the all states in the country. The area coverage of wheat, Rabi rice, coarse cereals, pulses and oilseeds as on 10.12.2009 reported as follows:

	Area: in lakh hectares	
Name of Crop	2009	2008
Wheat	217.02	216.02
Rabi Rice	3.36	2.11
Coarse Cereals	57.29	61.08
Total Pulses	111.90	109.39
Total Oilseeds	77.77	83.80

Some area of oilseeds is diverted to pluses in the states of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Karnataka. The less coverage under Coarse Cereals has been reported in the states of Karnataka due to area diverted to pulses and oilseeds.

State Government have been given flexibility to utilize the funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes namely National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Integrated Cereals Development Programme (ICDP) under Macro Management and Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RVKY) funds for Agricultural Development programme. Age limit norms of certified seed of wheat, rice and pulses varieties have been relaxed. Seed subsidy has been increased for wheat and rice crop from Rs.500 /- to Rs. 700/- per quintal, for pulses from Rs. 1200 to Rs.2000/- per quintal and Jowar and Bajra from Rs.800 to Rs.1000/- per quintal for Rabi 2009-10 season. Additional allocations of rust-resistant and terminal heat-tolerant wheat varieties of minikit have been made available. Availability and supply of essential inputs such as fertilizers, additional power for irrigation etc. have been provided in coordination with the States and concerned Central Ministries.

Investment for transgenic research

3260. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: